

Ladenza

Alumni
NEWS

Band
NEWS

Choir
NEWS

Faculty
NEWS

Orchestra
NEWS

Calendar of
EVENTS



"Singing together brings nations together." This is the motto of a movement that started less than 10 years ago with the first choral Olympics held in Linz, Austria, in the summer of 2000.

The idea of peaceful competition and bringing together the peoples of different countries goes back to ancient Greece, but its application to the world of choral music is a rather recent development. Peggy Dettwiler, MU's Director of Choral Activities, was there when it started in Linz, and she and her husband also attended the third Choir Olympics in Bremen, Germany, in 2004. Gradually the idea developed to participate in the competition with Mansfield's choral ensembles. Since the Concert Choir traditionally goes on a European tour every third year, a match had to be found to accommodate schedule and locale. Busan, South Korea, in 2002 and Xianmen, China, in 2006 did not quite seem right, but when Graz, Austria, was chosen as the venue for the fifth Choir Olympics in 2008, a decision to go was made.

On July 9-14, 2008, the Mansfield Concert Choir under the direction of Peggy Dettwiler and the Mansfieldians under the direction of Sheryl Monkelién will participate in the fifth World Choir Games with tens of thousands of choral singers from more than

Getting Ready for the OLYMPICS!

80 countries around the world. The Choral Olympics have become the world's largest choral competition! They will compete in three different categories: Mixed Youth Choirs, Spiritual and Gospel, and Vocal Jazz. The competition pieces have been chosen; some of them have already been performed in public in last fall's Chorale Collage and Holiday Concert. Others will appear in one of the spring concerts in 2008. Here is the repertory to be performed by Mansfield students in Graz:

MIXED YOUTH CHOIR

Mendelssohn, "Mitten wir im Leben sind" (one of the great chorale motets of the 19th century; the Concert Choir sang it on its European Tour in 2002);

Whitacre, "Sleep" (Whitacre is one of the most frequently performed choral composers in the United States; a CD with his choral music garnered a Grammy award two years ago);

Loomer, "Soon ah will be done" (a very moving setting of a beloved spiritual)

Mäntyjärvi, "El Hambo" (a Finnish composer whose pieces have popped up occasionally at Steadman; this composition is inspired by the Swedish chef of the Muppets and is filled with humor).

SPIRITUAL AND GOSPEL

Powell, "The Word was God" (a short, but rhythmically intense spiritual by a woman composer from the University of Alabama).

Dawson, "Mary had a Baby" (a most beautiful arrangement of a well-known spiritual, featuring the solo voices of Meghan Zwart and Belinda Martz).

Jennings "Go, Tell it on the Mountain" (written in the same key as the Dawson, this was selected to pick up the tempo and story-line and move it into the finale, "Born to Die").

Burleigh, "Born to Die" (a very powerful gospel setting with piano and drums; was sung by the 2003 Concert Choir to rave reviews!).

Continued on next page...

...continued from cover

VOCAL JAZZ

Weir, "Jubilee" (written by the great Bobby McFerrin, of "Don't Worry Be Happy" fame, and arranged by Michele Weir, internationally known jazz educator, arranger, and singer).

Puerling, "Both Sides Now" (written by Joni Mitchell, arranged by Gene Puerling, and recorded by one of the premier vocal jazz ensembles, the Singers Unlimited).

Mattson, "Blues in the Night" (Phil Mattson is one of the deans of vocal jazz in the United States and the teacher of Sheryl Monklien).

Swingle, "Country Dances" (there will be a Ward Swingle night in Graz—thus, for Mansfield to present arrangement of American Folk Songs, including "Old Dan Tucker" and "Turkey in the Straw", by the master is only appropriate).

This is the largest entourage of the five international tours: 56 students and 19 adult travelers! Lots of work lies ahead before take-off on July 6. But by the end of the semester the ensembles should be ready. Is there a risk that students will have forgotten the music by the time they travel to Europe almost two months later? Peggy Dettwiler is confident that the ensembles will very quickly find their groove again: "In 2004 we were invited to perform at the ACDA-PA summer conference in State College; we



had not sung together for several months, but within a short one-hour rehearsal we made music on the highest level."

While the main purpose of this year's European Tour is participating in the Olympics, there will be other venues for music-making, and, of course, there will be sightseeing. Graz is the capital of the Austrian province of Styria (Steiermark). For centuries, it has been "a meeting place for many peoples and ways of life; it lies on a point of intersection of European cultures of the East and West, North and South." It has a beautiful old town that belongs to the UNESCO World Heritage. Before Graz, the

Mansfield folks will fly from Philadelphia to Vienna (July 6 and 7), explore a few selected sites of the Austrian capital as well as rehearse their competition programs (July 8). On the way to Graz, they will stop in Eisenstadt, where Haydn served as concert master for Count Esterhazy in the eighteenth century (a brief concert is scheduled in the acoustically perfect Haydnsaal). After the Olympics, the choir will go on to Ljubljana, the capital of Slovenia (July 15), and cross into Italy with visits of Trieste and Venice (July 16-17). There will be a performance during mass in St. Mark's Cathedral, the venue that was the perfect setting for the music of Giovanni Gabrieli and Claudio Monteverdi around 1600. On July 18, the choir and its entourage return to Philadelphia.

CHOIR NEWS

DON'T MISS the CHORAL ENSEMBLE CONCERTS THIS SPRING!

On Good Friday, March 21 at 8 p.m. the **Mansfieldians** will present a concert of music composed for Passion Week. The featured work will be Cantata No. 4, "Christ lag in Todesbanden," by J. S. Bach with strings and organ. This seven-movement cantata is based upon a chorale tune and hymn by Martin Luther celebrating the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Others selections will be Renaissance motets by William Byrd and Thomas Weelkes plus the spirituals, "Were you there?" and "Ain't that good news." The performance will be presented at St. James Episcopal Church.

In April, the **Festival Chorus** will perform Handel's *Messiah* with full orchestra and soloists: Elizabeth Jacobs, soprano; Laurie Toole, alto; Jason Auman, tenor; and Thomas Jones, bass. All have studied voice in the Music Department at Mansfield University! Handel's *Messiah* is, undoubtedly, one of the best-loved oratorios of all time. The fact that Handel composed the 47 movements over a period of 23 days during the summer of 1741 adds to the grandeur and mystique of this magnificent work of art. The MU performances will include all three parts of the oratorio which depict the life of Jesus from Biblical prophecy, through the nativity, passion,

and resurrection to thanksgiving for the victory over death. The performances will take place on Saturday, April 12, at 7:30 pm in Steadman Theatre, and on Sunday, April 13 at 3 p.m. in the Corning Museum of Glass Auditorium.

Hear the **Concert Choir** on the road or at home as they present their program of music for the Choral Olympics and more. Here is their tour performance schedule for Spring 2008.

February 8, 8 p.m.: Concert Choir performs for the District 8 Chorus held at Troy High School, Troy, PA.

March 30, 7 p.m.: Concert Choir will present a full-concert in the First United Presbyterian Church in Tarentum, PA (NE of Pittsburgh).

April 22, 7:30 p.m.: Concert Choir has been invited back to perform in the Nightlife Series for the Bradford County Regional Arts Festival, Keystone Theatre in Towanda, PA.

April 26, 7:30 p.m.: Concert Choir will present its home tour concert with invited guests from Williamson High School under the direction of MU alumnus, Chris Pickering.

April 27, 7 p.m.: Briana Bailey and Christopher Starr will direct the Concert Choir in their graduate conducting recital in Steadman Theatre.

June 14: Concert Choir will present a concert for the visiting alums at the Annual Mansfield University Alumni Reunion, a warm-up for the Choral Olympics the next month!

Handel's Messiah

Saturday, April 12, at 7:30 p.m., Steadman Theatre
Sunday, April 13 at 3 p.m., Corning Museum of Glass Auditorium

A NEW DVD WITH MANSFIELD CHORAL ENSEMBLES

"Voices of Light," last year's holiday concert, is now available as a DVD through Mark Custom Recordings. Unlike the shortened version for TV stations, the DVD features the entire concert, including communal singing. Its festive tone makes this DVD a great Christmas gift for next year! Contact the Music Department or order directly from Mark Custom Recordings. Mark Custom Recording Services also has nine of the Concert Choir CDs in their catalog!

John Bender '69 Mountaintop, and his wife, Kim, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary August 20, 2007. The couple, accompanied by their daughters, Kate and Courtney, enjoyed a vacation in Cancun, Mexico to celebrate this special occasion.

John retired as an instrumental music teacher and band director after 33 years of service at Crestwood School District in 2002. He is enjoying retirement; is a private instrumental music instructor; and a certified Tournament of Bands judge.

Thomas Howe '75 is retiring from the Elmira City School District in February '08. He is married to Susan Boyles Howe '77, sociology. Sons Jason, Jared, and daughter-in-law Ann are also MU grads.

Bill Cutter '78 recently celebrated his 12th year as director of Choral Programs at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The MIT Concert Choir and Chamber Chorus participated in a scientific/musical exchange with the choir of the University of Lausanne in Switzerland in the spring of 2006. The combined university choirs performed "Ein Deutsches Requiem" of Johannes Brahms with professional orchestra and soloists in both Boston and Lausanne. Students in both schools also shared their research in very impressive symposiums and informal talks designed to give overviews of the exciting work happening in science and engineering.

Cutter is also the director of Choral Programs at the Boston Conservatory where he teaches graduate conducting. He was recently appointed Visiting Professor of Conducting at the New England Conservatory. For the past six years, he served as the chorus master and associate conductor of the Boston Lyric Opera Company. Active as a composer, he will have two new choral works published in the spring of '08 by Roger Dean Publishing and Hinshaw Music.

Victor L. Fields '81 of York, PA has been appointed Dean of the York Chapter, American Guild of Organists. He is organist and choirmaster at the historic Trinity United Church of Christ in downtown York, staff accompanist for the Harrisburg Choral Society and professor of piano and organ at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD.

Dr. Harold R. Mortimer '88 was awarded a Fulbright to study and teach in South Africa starting in January 2008. He will teach various courses in musical theatre, including voice, musical theatre workshop, musical theatre history, and other areas yet to be determined. Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria, South Africa has a graduate degree program in musical theatre performance and will be working with both graduate and under-graduate students. In addition, he will travel to other cities to study how plays and musicals are created and performed. This will include performance practices and vocal pedagogy issues regarding "legit" singing versus approaches to healthy "belt" vocal production.

He has been the coordinator at Ball State U for the last five years and now has students on Broadway, Off Broadway and regional houses throughout the country. He says "Exciting times for our department right now. But my students are trained with the same discipline to detail and thoroughness that was instilled in me during my years at MU. I often reflect back and am amazed at how great the faculty were at that time and how their determination to be tough, consistent and fair in their approach to students has affected the way I teach."

Kenneth Hess '90 is department head of music education and performing arts for the New Providence Schools in New Prov, NJ. He will conduct the NJ ACDA & MEA-sponsored State Elementary Honor Choir in May 2008.

Jason Strunk '97 has in recent years enjoyed a career in the Equity regional theater. Performing primarily musical theater, he has worked with several noted companies, directors and performers at such theaters as Wolf Trap Opera, Studio Theater, The American Century Theater, the Everyman Theater and the Tony Award Winning Arena Stage (Cabaret, Helen Hayes Nomination, outstanding musical). He currently serves as Director of Choral Activities at the Bullis School in Potomac, MD where he conducts Minstrels, Caprice, Counterpoints, Concert Choir and Chamber Singers. He is also a much sought after musical theater vocal coach and workshop instructor on musical theater audition technique.

A Note from the Chair

It is hard to believe that six years since taking on the role of chair in the music department at Mansfield University. These six years, like so many in the past, have been highlighted with great accomplishments by our faculty and students. I must say it has been my distinct pleasure to serve in this capacity, but my greatest joy has been to meet and work with so many people like you. As I was writing this letter, an alum, David Morrison '99 came in for a surprise visit. I have kept in touch with David on and off since he graduated, but his visit clarified so many of the changes that have occurred in the past 10 years. We talked about admissions, size of the department, quality of the students, and more, but his brief visit made me reflect on all that has been accomplished here at MU – and so much of it the result of good alums.

The life of any university hinges not only on excellent teaching, but on creating a legacy and commitment from our students, alumni and friends to help us succeed in our mission. As a department, we are healthier than ever before and we stand poised to fulfill our desire to be the premier school of music in Pennsylvania. Our faculty are truly inspiring and our students are eager and talented. But change and progress is never the result of anyone individual or set of circumstances. Change, especially in academe, comes from students and staff who will pursue excellence relentlessly, who will demand that it be better, and who work together to insure that we move forward. I am so proud to say that our alumni and friends have set a path that leads only to excellence. Mansfield University and our music department are a truly unique and empowering place to learn and grow!

Of course, none of this is possible without your continued support. Your support is more than financial – your support is tangible each time you tell others how proud you are of Mansfield University. Each time you recommend Mansfield University to a prospective student or family, you bolster our ability to do what we do best – to educate and prepare musicians. You may think that you have little impact on your alma mater, but every dollar donated, every positive comment passed along has a profound impact on our future. If you are one of the countless who have sent a donation, I thank you on behalf of the department. If you are one of the countless who have told others about the excellent education you have received or know about at MU, I also thank you, and I want to encourage all of our friends and alumni to consider continuing your support of our programs through your continued contributions to MU through our Foundation and positive word of mouth. You can, and have, made a difference.

In May of this year, I will step down as chair of the music department and return to teaching. I can say with confidence that our next chair will lead with distinction, because I know that the next chair will come directly from our department – and we are so fortunate to have so many talented people who can lead. We will continue to accomplish great things together and I hope you will always remember your connection to MU.

-Adam Brennan



2008

MANFIELD UNIVERSITY
MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Calendar of Events

Mon.	2/04/08	8:15 p.m.	Scott Beard, Guest Piano Recital
Fri.	2/08/08	7 p.m.	Conducting Symposium
Sat.	2/09/08	8 a.m.-6 p.m.	Conducting Symposium
Sat.	2/09/08	8 p.m.	\$ Jazz Ensemble/X-Ray Big Band Concert
Fri.	2/15/08	8 p.m.	Dr. Phillip Rammon, Faculty Cello Recital
Sun.	2/17/08	3 p.m.	\$ Orchestra Concert
Thurs,	2/21/08	8 p.m.	\$ Musical, 1776 - Straughn Theatre
Fri.	2/22/08	8 p.m.	\$ Musical, 1776 - Straughn Theatre
Sat.	2/23/08	8 p.m.	\$ Musical, 1776 - Straughn Theatre
Sun.	2/24/08	2 p.m.	\$ Musical, 1776 - Straughn Theatre
Fri.	2/29/08	7:33 p.m.	\$ Faculty Wind/Brass chamber Music Concert

Sat.	3/01/08	3 p.m.	\$ Symphonic Band Concert
Sun.	3/02/08	7 p.m.	Dr. Joseph Murphy, Faculty Saxophone
Fri.	3/21/08	8 p.m.	\$ Mansfieldians Concert, Music for Passion Week, St. James Episcopal Church
Sun.	3/30/08	7:30 p.m.	Mansfield Brass Quintet Concert
Fri.	4/04/08	8 p.m.	Jazz Reunion Jam Session - More Info!
Sun.	4/06/08	3 p.m.	\$ Jazz Ensemble Reunion Concert
Mon.	4/07/08	8 p.m.	Percussion Ensemble Concert
Sat.	4/12/08	7:30 p.m.	\$ Festival Chorus concert - Handel's Messiah
Sun.	4/13/08	3 p.m.	\$ Festival Chorus concert - Handel's Messiah - Corning Glass Museum
Sat.	4/19/08	8 p.m.	\$ Concert Wind Ensemble concert
Sun.	4/20/08	3 p.m.	\$ Orchestra Soloist Concert
Thurs	4/24/08	TBA	\$ Vocal Jazz Festival
Fri.	4/25/08	TBA	\$ Instrumental Jazz Festival
Sat.	4/26/08	7:30 p.m.	\$ Concert Choir Concert
Sun.	4/27/08	3 p.m.	\$ Symphonic Band concert

SUMMER MUSIC CAMPS

Percussion camp June 29-July 3

Saxophone camp June 29- July 3

Youth Music Camp July 6-12

Instrumental Honors Camp (band and jazz) July 13-19 & String Fling

Choir & Piano camp July 20-26

Mansfield

University music department invites you to "take a seat" in Steadman Theatre, and support music at the same time. This is a new opportunity for friends, alumni, faculty and staff to provide unrestricted support to the Music Fund with the purchase of a seat in the music concert hall. There are 450 seats available, and they are priced according to location. Prices range from \$300 to \$1,000, depending on location in the theatre. The Foundation will provide a plaque with a short inscription (in honor of your favorite professor, in memory of your parents, to honor your son or daughter who is graduating, etc.).

We are very proud of our music program, and we thank parents for their tuition dollars and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for their support. However, it is private gifts that add the measure of excellence that sets MU apart from our sister schools. Please help us with a private gift.

Please contact Adam Brennan for additional information, and the pledge card which will establish your gift.

Mansfield University Flute Studio News

The Mansfield University "Flute in the Limelight" Series presented the Tami Tango Trio and tango dancers from Buenos Aires, Argentina, September 19-20. (see photo)

The trio, accompanied by dancers, performed two concerts and taught



Claudia Marciano and Lucien Mares, tango dancers, Pablo Fauaz, guitar, Federico Perez, piano, Eduardo Tami, flute and Mansfield flute professors Christine Moulton and Douglas Crowder.

a tango class to students, faculty and staff of Mansfield University as well as members of the Mansfield community. All events were free and open to the public. The musicians also spoke about and played the music of their country in several music and Spanish classes. The project was assisted by a state grant from the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA) and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA). The grant was administered by the Bradford County Regional Arts Council (BCRAC). The group was enthusiastically received by their audiences, especially when our own voice faculty Dr. Douglass Crowder, made an appearance as singer/drummer with group.

The flute studio and music department were privileged to hear the visiting flute and piano duo called "2" on October 22. Based in Boston, flutist Peter Bloom and pianist Mary Jane Rupert were invited by the music department to perform a concert featuring music by innovative women composers. Peter Bloom gave a master class for the flute students the following day.

Flutist, Ashley Potter, MU Music Business major, won one of two top Kreuscher Scholarship awards, \$1000, in October. The scholarships were awarded based on performance by audition and were open to all music students at Mansfield University.

Music Education major flutists Shanna Hubbs, Elizabeth Rhone and Heather Singley successfully presented their senior flute recitals this fall.

The MU Flute Ensemble performed a concert at The Laurels Assisted Living home December 3rd. Music Education major and flutist Heather Singley conducted part of the program.

Assistant Professor of Flute, Christine Moulton, was part of a weekend workshop and concert with the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra November 17 & 18 at Keuka College in Penn Yann, NY. The interactive weekend showcased composers and their works as well as featured demonstrations and discussions of what is involved in being an audience member, a performer and a composer in today's concert world.

Dr. Moulton was also invited by Dr. Tim Running, professor of Flute at Kutztown University, to give a lecture and master class with Philadelphia colleague Lois Herbine for the music department at Kutztown University on "The Elements of Musical Expression" on September 28.

News from the Double Reed Studio

On October 21, 2007, the Double Reed Studio held its 11th Annual Octoboe! chamber music recital. For the second year in a row, a workshop was held in the afternoon for guest junior and senior high school double reeders. Fifteen double reeders participated, hailing from Athens, Benton Area, Berwick, Lock Haven, Mansfield, Towanda, and Wellsboro. The afternoon was spent honing basic skills and learning several works to be performed at the evening concert. The opening number, per Octoboe! tradition, was Two Renaissance Dances by Tielman Susato, with all 28 players from the combined Guest Double Reed Ensemble and the MU Double Reed Ensemble and Alumni, followed by works prepared by the Guest Ensemble. The hour-long program then continued with Mansfield students and faculty playing all combinations of duets, trios and quartets, on almost all members of the double reed family: oboe, oboe d'amore, English horn, bassoon, and contrabassoon. Of particular note were the performances of the MU Bassoon Quartet on Peter Schickele's Last Tango in Bayreuth, and the full ensemble's grand finale, Stacy Willer's Fanfare for the Common Mandrel, conducted by graduate student Scott Schimpf with cameo vocal solo by Professor McEuen. Alumni joining the MU ensemble on one or more pieces were Wendy (Savoy) Griffin, Zach Joseph, and Kim (French) Smith, oboes, and Brian Fish, bassoon.

The double reed studio recently formed the MU Double Reed Society in the hopes of gaining funding for future guest artists and master classes. The MU Double Reed Ensemble capped the fall semester with a performance of standard and holiday repertoire for the students and faculty at New Covenant Academy in Mansfield. Dr. Sue Laib is available for clinics and solo and chamber appearances: slaib@mansfield.edu, 570-662-7507.



Wind Ensemble Reunion Planned for December 2008

Come celebrate our 55th Anniversary of the Concert Wind Ensemble on December 5, 6 and 7. Early check-in and a reception are planned for Friday evening, December 5, followed by a day of rehearsals on December 6 from 9 a.m. to noon and then 1-4:30 p.m. An evening reception is planned again for the evening of the 6th with a concert Sunday, December 7 at 2:30 p.m. All alumni of the Concert Wind Ensemble are encouraged to attend and participate in the reunion band. We will do some selections with just the alumni and will also combine with the current wind ensemble to perform in concert. Worried about your "chops"? Don't be! This is always a great time to reconnect and have an enjoyable weekend making some great music together. Please help us to get the word out. Mark your calendars and start to make reservations for our alumni wind ensemble reunion! Hotel information for a block of rooms reserved for the MU Wind Ensemble Reunion:

Comfort Inn in Mansfield call (570) 662-3000.

Please reserve now to insure you can get a room as other hotels in the area are already booked for the Dickens of a Christmas Celebration in Wellsboro.

New Recordings With the Concert Wind Ensemble

The latest compact disc recording by the Concert Wind Ensemble has been released! The disc features the 2006 wind ensemble and is entitled Concord! The music selections include Marche Hongroise by Hector Berlioz, Dance Movements by Philip Sparke, October by Eric Whitacre, Moorside March by Gustav Holst (conducted by graduate student Aaron Robertson), Hearts Music by David Diamond and Celebration Overture by Paul Creston. If you would like a copy, send a request to abrennan@mansfield.edu. The disc will sell for \$10 with all proceeds going to future wind ensemble recording projects.

Another recording project by the wind ensemble was just compiled and

will be edited for release sometime after May of 2008. This yet untitled work highlights tour repertoire from the 2007 fall season. Wind Ensemble conductor, Dr. Adam F. Brennan stated, "I am very excited about this latest project because it includes three works in which the band has been part of the commissioning process. More importantly, we are now able to do these recordings in house, thanks in large part to the new recording studio we have installed. Our music technology students, under the guidance of Dr. David Wetzel, figure prominently in the completion of this work and we are providing some truly world class experience in producing these CDs here at MU."

A new saxophone concerto, featuring Dr. Joseph Murphy, assistant chair/professor of Saxophone, a new Symphony and a programmatic work are all part of this latest recording. Dr. Nathan Rinnert, assistant director of bands, was also instrumental in making this project a reality and has served as a co-producer of the last two recording projects completed by the wind ensemble. Brennan went on to state, "With the recent approval of a graphics arts program at MU we look forward to not only doing the recording of these projects, but moving to a place where, collaborating with our art department and involving our music technology students, we can handle the full production preparation of these recordings."

Look for an update in the next Cadenza about the 2007 recording!

FACULTY NEWS

Dr. Benjamin Husted died in spring '07 Fort Pierce, FL. He served the MU music department from 1950-71. His duties included chair, theory, clarinet, and chorus.

Mansfield University added a new faculty member for 2007-08, **Dr. Andrew Walters**, to the music theory and music technology programs. This spring he will be teaching Basic Music II and Electronic Music. He comes to us from the Dallas/Fort Worth area where he taught at the University of Texas at Arlington and Brookhaven Community College. Dr. Walters received his Masters in music composition from Northern Illinois University and his D.M.A. in music composition from the University of Illinois.

Last fall his piece, *VARIATIONS ON A LANDSCAPE* 4.9/12 for AM radio and interactive computer, was performed at the Electroacoustic Juke Joint Festival at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi. The piece was performed at Po' Monkeys, one of the last rural juke joints left in Mississippi.

This spring, Dr. Walters and Dr. David Wetzel, will be presenting a paper on "A Modular Framework for Interactive System Design: A Performer's Tool for Adapting and Maintaining Repertoire and A Composer's Tool for Exploring and Extending Established Interactive Instruments". As part of the presentation, Dr. Walters will be composing a new piece for clarinet and interactive computer system.

Also, this spring, **Dr. Joseph Murphy**, will be giving the Mansfield premiere of the piece *PUSHING BUTTONS* for alto saxophone and 2-channel digital music. The piece has been performed at the International Computer Music Conference and is featured on the Music From SEAMUS, Volume 16 Compact Disk.

Double Reed professor **Sue Laib** kept busy over the holidays as the Guest Curator for "Musician's Choice," a chamber music partnership between the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes and several area museums. The planning actually began last August, rehearsals commenced in November, and the performance took place on January 11, 2008, at the Rockwell Museum of Western Art in Corning, NY. Headlining the program were several of Telemann's unaccompanied Fantasies and Beethoven's Trio, Op. 87, for two oboes and English horn. Dr. Laib, oboe and oboe d'amore, was joined by her colleagues in the Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes double reed section as well as MU faculty members Steve McEuen, alto and tenor trombone, and Shellie Gregorich, piano. The program, which kept the sold-out audience spellbound as it traversed through several centuries and from the sublime to the ridiculous and back, included such major war horses as the Beethoven Trio and the Albinoni Concerto for two oboes, Op. 9 No.3, played round-robin style by the three oboists, as well as Christopher Weit's humorous double reed quartets, Fantasy Variations on Chopsticks and Pop!

Goes the Weasel as the program opener and closer. Steve joined Sue on two arias by Franz Schubert and Emperor Joseph I, and then gave the double reeders a break by playing two Brahms songs with Dr. Gregorich. Tipping the hat to the surroundings of western art, the musicians played an oboe, English horn, bassoon trio of Mexican themes by Mike Curtis, and Variations on Waltzing Matilda for two oboes and English horn by Australian composer Graham Powning. Not to be outdone, Steve, a Santa Fe native, wore an authentic western suit with dress boots and bolo tie, topped with a genuine Stetson cowboy hat. Everyone in the over-flow audience had their choices of favorites from the eclectic program, however, eight-year-old Davey McEuen was partial to the Suite of Mexican Themes and Pop! Goes the Weasel. Other musicians participating were Anita Pawlak, oboe, Lesley McClelland, oboe and English horn, Heather Stempien Cole, bassoon, and Cathy Peckham, piano.

Adam F. Brennan, current chair of the music department and director of bands, was elected to membership in the American Band Masters Association in March of 2007 and will be officially inducted into the organization this March at the annual ABA Convention held in Miami, Florida. Brennan's induction makes him the fourth director of bands at MU to be recognized nationally for his work with bands. Former inductees include Col. George Howard, Bertram Francis, and Donald Stanley.

Brennan has also been actively composing and will have had two new works premiered in the past year and a half. Last March, as part of the Commend Performance in Honor of MU President Maravene Loeschke's inauguration, a work for orchestra, wind ensemble and men's chorus was premiered. The work, *Red, Black and Gold!* was the result of a commission by the Beta Omicron Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia in honor of their 75th anniversary at MU. Given the importance of the ceremony, the chapter's celebration of their longevity at MU and being in the midst of celebrating the university's Sesquicentennial, it was the perfect place to present this work that brought together forces from all elements of the music department.

In the Spring of 2008, another commission, this time from Tau Beta Sigma Band Sorority at MU, will be premiered. The work is entitled *Dream* and is dedicated to the memory of former MU student Kimberly Lawler, who recently passed away after an illness. While the work is not elegiac in nature, Brennan says that the work "is meant to reflect on life's dreams with an understanding that dreams change and evolve throughout our lives as events, both expected and unexpected, change our course." This new work will be performed at the April 19, 2008 concert and is scheduled to be published through Webfield Productions/AllThingsBand.com in September 2008.

Write To Us!

Joe Murphy is the editor of the Cadenza. Our readers and the faculty like to hear from you. Please write something about your professional or personal life on the form and send it to him in care of the Music Department or E-mail him with your news at jmurphy@mansfield.edu

Name _____ Class of _____

News _____

Cadenza Online

Please clip this form and return to the Music Department, Mansfield University, Mansfield, PA 16933 at your earliest convenience.

Name _____ Class of _____

Phone:() _____

Mailing Address: _____ Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please let us know if you do not have access to E-mail and/or internet and we will continue to send you a hard copy of the Cadenza.



Mansfield University
Butler Music Center
Mansfield, PA 16933

Nonprofit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Mansfield, PA Permit No. 3
